

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 05191 251529Z
ACTION EUR-12

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BUCHAREST 5191

USDOC FOR BEWT/TDAD/BOWIE AND BEWT/EEAD/HANLEY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, BTIO, RO
SUBJECT: US-ROMANIAN COOPERATION IN AVIATION

REFS: (A) USDOC 12797 (B) BUCHAREST 4517

1. PER REF (A) WE ARE NOT AWARE OF PARTICULAR PROJECTS WHICH PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU MAY HAVE HAD IN MIND IN HIS REMARKS TO ROMANIAN-US ECONOMIC COUNCIL. RATHER, WE THINK HE WAS SPEAKING GENERALLY OF GOR'S DESIRE TO DEVELOP COOPERATION IN AVIATION FIELD WITH US FIRMS. OUR RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH GOR OFFICIALS WORKING IN THE FIELD CONFIRM THIS IMPRESSION.

2. WHILE NO NEW SPECIFIC PROJECTS BEING PUSHED BY GOR WE DO WISH TO REMIND BEWT OF STRONG GOR INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS OF AVIATION TRADE AND COOPERATION WITH US FIRMS: MICRO-WAVE LANDING SYSTEMS (MLS); INSTRUMENT LANDING SYSTEMS (ILS); UPGRADING OF AIRPORT FACILITIES; PURCHASE OF NEW AIRPLANES; MANUFACTURE OF PLANE ENGINES, SPARE PARTS AND WHOLE PLANES. SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH ROMANIA IS TAKING DEVELOPMENT OF ITS AVIATION INDUSTRY IS EVIDENCED BY
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LARGE SCALE COOPERATION AGREEMENT SIGNED RECENTLY WITH BRITISH AIRCRAFT CORP. FOR MANUFACTURE IN ROMANIA OF MORE THAN 80 BAC-111 AIRCRAFT. IT IS ALSO, REPORTEDLY, STILL INSISTING WITH FRG THAT NEGOTIATIONS PROCEED ON VOKKER, DESPITE FACT THAT GERMANS DO NOT FEEL THEMSELVES TO BE IN POSITION TO CONCLUDE ANY DEAL.

3. EMBASSY AWARE THAT GE HAS BEEN DISCUSSING
ARRANGEMENTS FOR PURCHASE BY GOR OF AIRCRAFT ENGINES
REPORTEDLY FOR CIVILIAN USE. ACCORDING TO GE REPS
IN VIENNA WHO ATTENDED US-ROMANIAN ECONOMIC COUNCIL
SESSION JUNE 26-27, THESE DISCUSSIONS HAVE NOT
PROSPERED, AND IT APPEARS UNLIKELY THAT SALE WILL
BE MADE.
AGGREY

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